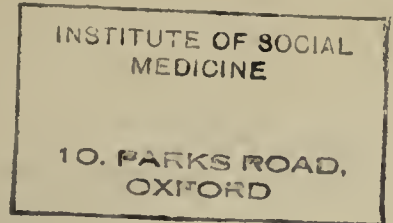


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OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
SHIRE HALL, WARWICK.
1st March, 1947.

To The Warwickshire County Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my report on the health of the Administrative County of Warwick for the year ended December 31st, 1945.

INTRODUCTION.

2 Staff.

In my report for the years 1941 to 1944, I referred to the employment of local part-time doctors, and this arrangement continued in 1945, the full-time Medical Staff of the department being as follows:—

Permanent.

- Dr. J. L. NEWMAN (Deputy County Medical Officer).

Dr. AGNES H. M. YOUNG.

Dr. J. HENDERSON.

Dr. KATHERINE SCOTT.

Dr. J. L. FARMER.
- }
- Assistant County Medical Officers.

Temporary.

- Dr. MARY CROSTHWAITE.

Dr. IVY RIGG.

Dr. W. M. WALKER.

Dr. M. E. LEMIN,

Dr. ELIZABETH THOMAS
- }
- Dr. EVELYN ST. JOHNSTONE.

Dr. JOYCE BROCKINGTON.

Dr. ELIZABETH THOMPSON.
- from November, 1945.

3

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

						Administrative	
			Urban		Rural		County.
Area (acres)	...	...	81,524	...	477,186	...	558,710
Population (Mid. 1945)			285,610	...	151,720	...	437,330

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

Births.		Male.		Female.		Total.		
Legitimate	...	3,903	...	3,713	...	7,616	}	Birth-rate
Illegitimate	...	371	...	301	...	672		18.95
Stillbirths.	...	118	...	98	...	216	— Rate per 1,000 total births, 25.39.	

Deaths.

No. of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth—

From Sepsis	...	...	...	3
Other Causes	...	...	...	10
				—
Total	...			13
				—

Maternal Mortality per 1,000 live births ... 1.56.

" " per 1,000 total births ... 1.52.

Death rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births :—

Legitimate 37.76. Illegitimate 4.70. Total—42.47.

Death rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... 41.09.

" " of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 58.03.

Death rate.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	688	...	1.57
" " Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	12	...	0.02.
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)...	...	...	...	12	...	0.02.
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	26	...	0.06.

4 The following table records some of the more important statistical results of the year under review, compared with previous rates since 1921 :—

Year.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Zymotic Death Rate.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate	Cancer Death Rate	Child Mortality 1 to 5 years,	Infant Mortality.	Still-births per 1,000 total births,	Maternal Mortality per 1,000 live births.
1921.	22.27	10.73	0.46	0.64	1.23	—	65	—	3.60
1922.	21.16	11.04	0.33	0.68	1.03	—	60	—	5.01
1923.	19.75	10.29	0.50	0.66	1.11	—	60	—	2.80
1924.	18.76	10.98	0.30	0.69	1.25	—	60	—	4.30
1925.	18.46	11.15	0.42	0.70	1.31	—	62	—	5.00
1926.	17.52	10.52	0.31	0.65	1.38	—	54	—	3.30
1927.	17.30	11.25	0.21	0.64	1.36	—	66	—	2.90
1928.	16.83	10.13	0.23	0.55	1.33	—	55	—	4.59
1929.	16.29	12.70	0.33	0.70	1.30	—	60	—	4.20
1930.	16.63	10.82	0.25	0.51	1.43	0.31	49	42	4.50
1931.	15.69	11.06	0.20	0.51	1.42	0.41	55	35	4.30
1932.	15.38	11.52	0.22	0.49	1.47	0.34	55	35	3.70
1933.	13.71	11.42	0.16	0.52	1.53	0.36	54	35	5.20
1934.	14.31	10.71	0.22	0.42	1.43	0.32	48	34	4.97
1935.	13.44	9.60	0.21	0.45	1.45	0.25	47	40	3.68
1936.	15.08	10.56	0.23	0.42	1.51	0.29	52	33	5.21
1937.	15.32	11.25	0.21	0.41	1.57	0.23	50	35	3.17
1938.	16.63	10.17	0.18	0.47	1.45	0.21	48	30	2.87
1939.	16.18	10.19	0.11	0.43	1.54	0.20	45	32	2.26
1940.	15.83	12.69	0.09	0.50	1.51	0.25	51	35	2.82
1941.	15.94	11.69	0.23	0.43	1.55	0.33	53	33	2.99
1942.	17.38	10.26	0.12	0.41	1.55	0.14	39	32	2.14
1943.	18.98	10.62	0.10	0.41	1.55	0.14	42	28	2.70
1944.	20.88	10.64	0.11	0.42	1.66	0.15	35	25	1.50
1945.	18.95	10.45	0.13	0.40	1.57	0.11	42	25	1.56

5 BIRTHS.—Registered births in 1945 were 8,288 as compared with 9,301 in the previous year. The birth-rate shews a decline on the 1944 figure which was the highest in the County for 22 years. The number of illegitimate births continues to increase, the 672 recorded, being 8.10 per cent. of total live births, compared with 9.33 for the whole of England and Wales.

6 MATERNAL MORTALITY.—The maternal death rate was 1.56 compared with the record low figure of 1.50 in 1944.

7 PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.—Deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis were reduced to 175, shewing a death rate of 0.40, the lowest on record.

8 INFANT MORTALITY.—There were 352 deaths of Infants under one year of age, a mortality rate of 42 per 1,000 live births, as against the record low figure of 35 in 1944. The death rate of illegitimate infants is still higher than that of legitimate, but the rate has fallen; it is hoped through the operation of the "illegitimate scheme." The Registrar-General's figures refer to transferred births, many of which may not have been dealt with under this scheme.

9 DEATHS.—During the year, 4,573 deaths were registered, the death-rate being 10.45, as compared with 10.62 and 10.64 respectively in 1943 and 1944.

10 ZYMOTIC DEATH-RATE.—The low death rate figure of 0.13 is again satisfactory, and indicates continued efficient control over infectious fevers.

11 CANCER.—The 688 deaths from Cancer shew a reduction in the figures of the four previous years, but the death rate of 1.57 is substantially the same.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

12 **Laboratory Facilities.**—The arrangements under which Public Health bacteriological and pathological examinations are carried out by the Birmingham University, have continued.

In addition, the Pathological Laboratory, at the Central Hospital, Hatton, under the supervision of Dr. J. C. COLBECK, County Pathologist, has continued to deal with increased work arising mainly from the Emergency Hospitals Scheme, instituted during the war.

The following is a summary of the work done in 1945 :—

<i>Hospitals and bodies served.</i>	<i>Ordinary Units.</i>	<i>E.M.S. Units.</i>	<i>Total Units.</i>
Alcester Emergency Hospital	1,008	—	1,008
Nuneaton Emergency Hospital	8,782	2,174	10,956
Rugby Emergency Hospital	3,375	—	3,375
Solihull Emergency Hospital	5,138	167	5,305
Stratford-on-Avon Emergency Hospital	1,970	6,304	8,274
Warwick Hospital	13,520	9,579	23,099
Warneford Hospital	6,028	214	6,242
Central Hospital	20,929	—	20,929
Stratford-on-Avon General Hospital	1,288	96	1,384
Coventry and Warwick Hospital	—	459	459
Ellen Badger Hospital, Shipston-on-Stour	59	38	97
Hospital of St. Cross, Rugby	105	194	299
County Public Health Department	905	1,625	2,530
London County Council	—	1,041	1,041
Memorial Sanatorium	367	—	367
Private Practitioners	1,816	22	1,838
Coroners' Cases	4,110	—	4,110
Armed Forces	—	5,330	5,330
Shipston-on-Stour Public Assistance Institution	58	—	58
Coventry City Isolation Hospital	—	48	48
Stratford-on-Avon Isolation Hospital	5	54	59
Solihull Isolation Hospital	—	29	29
Warwick Isolation Hospital	—	4	4
Gulson Road Hospital, Coventry	17	29	46
Royal Midland Counties Home	91	9	100
Warwickshire Orthopaedic Hospital	—	7	7
Knowle Hill School, Kenilworth	30	—	30
Harborough Magna Isolation Hospital	12	—	12
	<hr/> 69,613 <hr/>	<hr/> 27,423 <hr/>	<hr/> 97,036 <hr/>

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

13 The County Council by agreement with the local authorities in the County continued to operate a free ambulance service. From the 1st July to the 31st December, 15,782 calls were made on the service and 184,437 miles travelled. The mileage run is a reduction on last year. These figures include all work undertaken by the Service, viz. :—accidents and illness cases to hospitals, maternity cases to and from hospitals and hostels, military, urgent sick and accident cases, school children to clinics and hospitals, War-time Nurseries, and Pathological Laboratory.

The service is restricted to calls received from Doctors, District Nurses, Midwives, Hospitals, Police, Relieving Officers, School Medical Officers, and in the case of private individuals (mainly maternity cases) those in possession of a signed authorization.

14 Nursing in the Home.

The County Nursing Association and affiliated District Nursing Associations have continued to undertake the provision of nursing in the home.

The following figures indicate the Nurses' work during the year :—

Midwifery cases	...	...	...	...	1,265
Maternity cases	...	...	...	...	522
General cases	...	...	...	...	6,133
Nursing visits	...	...	...	...	104,975
Ante-Natal visits	...	...	...	...	12,744
Post-natal visits	...	...	...	...	34,030
Casual visits	...	...	...	...	15,002

Attendances at :—

(a) Ante-Natal Clinics and Child Welfare Centres	...	...	...	...	881
(b) School Clinics	...	...	...	...	41

CHILD WELFARE.

15 Home Visiting by Health Visitors.

(Staff of 27 Health Visitors).

First visits to infants under 1 year	...	...	...	5,141
Re-visits to infants under 1 year	...	...	...	12,853
First visits to children between 1 and 5 years	...	...	...	4,588
Re-visits to children between 1 and 5 years	...	...	...	20,866
				43,448

16 Infant Welfare Centres.

During the year under review, there were 46 fixed Infant Welfare Centres operating in the County (44 voluntary and 2 maintained by the County Council) each staffed by a County Health Visitor as Superintendent, and 32 of them having an Assistant County Medical Officer as Medical Officer of the Centre. For the remainder of the Centres, Local General Practitioners act as Medical Officers.

The Mobile Welfare Centre, staffed by Assistant County Medical Officers, operated at the following villages :—

Baginton.	Stockton.
Balsall Street.	Stoneleigh.
Barford.	Tanworth-in-Arden.
Brailes.	Welford-on-Avon.
Fillongley.	Wellesbourne.
Lapworth.	Wolston.
Marston Green.	Wroxall.
Preston-on-Stour.	

17 Attendances at Infant Welfare Centres.

No. of infants up to 1 year of age	...	...	3,017
Attendances of infants up to 1 year	...	...	46,766
No. of children between 1 and 5 years	...	...	5,983
Attendances of children between 1 and 5 years			22,149
<hr/>			
Total attendances	...	...	68,915
<hr/>			

Health Visitors' attendances totalled 2,445.

The arrangement with the Staffordshire County Council continued for the visiting of infants in the Bolehall and Glascote area.

18 Child Life Protection.

The County Register recorded 75 nursed-out children on the 31st December, 1945, including 17 associated with Dr. BARNARDO's Homes.

Particulars of action taken are as follows :—

No. of children removed from register	...	...	45
No. of children added to register	...	...	49
No. on register, 31st December	...	...	75
Health Visitors' first visits	...	...	127
Health Visitors' revisits	...	...	494

THE WORK OF THE HEALTH VISITORS.

19 The number of Health Visitors on the established staff since 1939 is one Superintendent and 27 Health Visitors. They undertake the combined duties of Maternity and Child Welfare, Child Life Protection, School Nursing and Tuberculosis after-care.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

(1) **Home Visiting.**—In 1939 the number of first visits to infants was 3,770 and the number of re-visits to children under one year was 18,733, an average of 5 per child, or a visit every two months. By 1944, births had increased and the number of first visits reached the figure of 6,661, but the number of re-visits to infants under one year dropped to 12,900, making an average of only 3 visits per year per infant, as it was not possible to maintain the number of re-visits because of the increase in the birth rate. The enforced reduction of follow-up visits is to be regretted. Whilst in 1939, 24,000 visits were paid to children between the ages 1-5 years, in 1945 only 21,000 visits were made to children in this group, although the number had gradually increased during the war years. Because of pressure of work, Health Visitors could not do more.

There should be not less than one Health Visitor to every 200 births per year, which would be 26 Health Visitors based on this estimate (according to births notified in 1945) for Maternity and Child Welfare alone. From the tables appended it will be noted that the time equivalent to 17 full time Health Visitors only was spent on this branch of work, as the balance of time was allocated to other duties included in the Health Visitor's sphere of work.

During the years 1939-1945 the number of Child Welfare Centres has been increased, and also the number of Ante-Natal Clinics, making more fixtures (in 1940 there were 1,940 compared with 2,774 in 1945) for Health Visitors to attend, and these duties therefore took them off their districts. The number of children under one year of age attending Welfare Centres in 1940 was 1,995 and in 1945, 3,017; the attendances having increased from 26,600 in the former to 46,700 in 1945. It is unfortunate there has not been a similar increase in the attendances of children of 1-5 years. The number of children on the register in this group in 1940 was 4,500, who made 22,300 attendances, and in 1945, 5,900 children made 22,100 attendances. It would appear

that many parents are still under the impression that the Child Welfare services are for children up to one year only. Parents need encouraging to continue bringing their children at least quarterly, and at any rate, at least once a year for medical examination, so that any defects can be corrected before school entry age. If the Health Visitor had more time for visiting this group, in all probability there would be some improvement.

(2) **Child Life Protection (including Adoptions).**

Though the number of foster children remains very little altered, Health Visitors inspect many more homes of prospective foster parents under the Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, and most registered Adoption Societies now write to the County Medical Officer asking for a report on the home conditions of persons who have made application to these various Societies, to be provided. Much depends on the report of a Health Visitor as to whether a child is placed for adoption. When children are placed the Health Visitors continue to supervise under the above Act until the adoption order is made in favour of the applicants, when the children are absorbed into ordinary community life, and come under the supervision of the Health Visitor under the requirements of the Public Health Act, 1936.

(3) **School Medical Services.**—Due to their depleted medical staff, the number of medical inspections during 1945 was smaller than for 1944; when also a great deal of time was devoted to evacuation of school children. In 1944 it was estimated that Health Visitors gave the equivalent of 13 whole-time school nurses to this service, whereas in 1945 the work done was equivalent to 8 whole time nurses. Much more home visiting of defective school children should be done, but the staff is inadequate to do more. The Health Visitors continue to report great difficulty in finding parents in, and they often have to go two or three times to a house before paying an effective visit; or they have to go in the evening or during the week-end if the visit is of an urgent nature.

(4) **Tuberculosis Visiting.**—The Health Visitors paid 2,378 visits to 1,598 patients on the visiting list, an average of 1.34 visits to each patient for the year. They have attended 579 dispensary sessions in addition. The general feeling is that the amount of after care should be increased, and discussions have taken place with Dr. WILLIAMS, Chief Tuberculosis Medical Officer, about increasing the proportion of Health Visitors for this work from 3 to the equivalent of 6.

(5) **Clerical Work.**—The amount of writing of reports and keeping records which each Health Visitor is required to do after returning home in the evening and on Saturday mornings is considerable. On an average each Health Visitor spends at least $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours each evening in addition to Saturday mornings (or the equivalent of 4 hours). This includes writing up birth notifications, diphtheria propaganda and records, iron tablet records and accounts, special reports and filing the various record cards and correspondence, working out different schemes for demonstrations at Welfare Centres or "Health talks" or lectures to nursing cadets or members of various organisations. One day per month should be allowed to members of the staff for the work.

(6) **Establishment.**—

The following number of Health Visitors would be needed to give a complete service :—

For Maternity and Child Welfare	...	...	29
School Nursing	...	...	9
Tuberculosis	...	...	6
Miscellaneous Work	...	...	1
			—
			45
			—

Attached is a statement setting out the present position with regard to the work of each Health Visitor. The "Case loads" are seen to be much in excess of the figure of 500 generally recommended.

CASE LOAD, 31-12-45.

<i>Health Visitor.</i>	<i>Infant Visiting Cards.</i>	<i>C.L.P.</i>	<i>School Children.</i>	<i>Tuber- culosis.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Miss ADAMS	897	—	438	166	1,501
Miss AGUTTER	1,238	2	1,978	32	3,250
Miss ANTHONY	878	1	1,300	31	2,210
Miss BAKER	1,147	9	1,344	73	2,573
Miss BODENHAM	1,176	21	1,240	45	2,482
Miss CUNNINGHAM	1,037	4	1,801	45	2,887
Miss DAVIE	1,051	3	1,739	52	2,845
Mrs. DENT	1,100	2	2,040	—	3,142
Miss DILCOCK	1,068	3	2,309	51	3,431
Miss EDWARDS	1,164	5	1,740	66	2,975
Mrs. EVERITT	1,135	14	1,784	36	2,969
Miss FITZSIMMON	578	7	984	32	1,601
Miss GARDAM	666	5	858	74	1,603
Miss GAWTHORP	549	4	1,029	19	1,601
Miss GODLEY	909	2	1,550	46	2,507
Mrs. GOODING	650	6	868	37	1,561
Miss HALL	620	1	724	40	1,385
Miss HERRINGTON	509	1	542	262	1,314
Miss MANTON	829	2	1,301	30	2,162
Miss MITCHELL	757	7	1,132	304	2,200
Miss MORGAN	1,328	4	1,037	36	2,405
Mrs. PRIESTLEY	590	9	510	20	1,129
Miss SHAKSPEARE	1,106	6	1,749	11	2,872
Mrs. TOMLIN	1,112	3	1,906	57	3,078
Mrs. WARDROP	938	4	1,167	51	2,160
Miss WEBBER	1,379	—	1,702	—	3,081

Analysis.

62.8% of a Health Visitor's time spent on M. & C.W. = 17 full-time Health Visitors.

28.4% of a Health Visitor's time spent on School Medical = 8 full-time Health Visitors.

6.3% of a Health Visitor's time spent on Tuberculosis visiting = 1.5 full-time Health Visitors.

NOTES.

Average number of visits per visiting day per Health Visitor = 18.

No. of possible visiting days are 5 per week = 260 per year.

less 4 weeks (20 days) holiday = 240 per year.

less 114 days spent at clinics = 126 actual per year.

= 52.5% of time spent visiting.

47.5% of time spent at Fixtures.

Maximum number of visits per Health Visitor per year :—2,277.

20 **Orthopaedic Treatment.**

The following table gives a brief summary of the work carried out during the year :—

<i>Clinic Treatment.</i>	<i>School Age.</i>	<i>Under School Age.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
No. of cases on Register	1,621	596	2,217
No. of attendances at Clinics	10,267	2,593	12,860
No. of attendances for massage and exercises	8,658	1,733	10,391
No. of examinations by Surgeon	1,185	642	1,827
Appliances provided and surgical alterations	328	186	514
X-ray examinations	96	32	128

In addition to the figures referred to above in connection with attendances at the various Clinics controlled by Voluntary Committees, the County Orthopaedic Nurses have attended the additional four Clinics established by the Education Committee at Kenilworth, Southam, Solihull and Warwick.

The number of Clinic sessions attended by the Orthopaedic Nurses are as follows :—

Miss W. M. KETCHEN (whole-time 1-1-45—20-9-45)—183 sessions. (Left service 21-9-45).

Mrs. W. MASON (part-time 1-1-45—31-5-45, whole-time 1-6-45—31-12-45)—133 sessions.

The following Table gives particulars relating to the four Clinics established by the Education Committee :—

Clinic.		No. of children on Register.		No. of attendances made.		No. of children supplied with appliances.		No. of examinations by Surgeon.		No. of X-ray examinations.	
		School Age.	Under School Age.	School Age.	Under School Age.	School Age.	Under School Age.	School Age.	Under School Age.	School Age.	Under School Age.
Kenilworth	...	101	62	1009	312	164	78	—	—	—	—
Southam	...	59	31	317	122	46	28	—	—	—	—
Solihull	...	371	125	1159	364	267	121	194	80	16	1
Warwick	...	119	49	502	192	76	65	—	—	—	—
		650	267	2987	990	553	292	194	80	16	1
		917		3977		845		274		17	

Figure for 1944 :— 853 2260 522 247 14

Work undertaken by County Orthopaedic Nurses :—

	School Age.	Under School Age.	Over age 14-16 yrs.	Total.
No. of domiciliary and School Visits	632	500	17	1,149
No. of domiciliary treatments ...	583	300	—	883
	1,215	800	17	2,032
Figures for 1944	914	450	36	1,400

Hospital Treatment.	School Age.	Under School Age.	Total.
No. of children admitted during year	62	20	82
No. of children remaining in hospital at end of year	26	2	28
Paybody Convalescent Home, Allesley.	School Age.	Under School Age.	Total.
No. of children admitted during year	19	13	32
No. of children remaining in the Home at end of year	5	4	9

Parental Contributions.

Contributions towards the cost of treatment were received from parents during the year amounting to £556 10s. 10d. (£391 2s. 1d. in respect of school children and £165 8s. 9d. in respect of children under school age).

It will be seen that the work of the County Physiotherapists has doubled during the year, but it does not indicate the work left undone.

The two Physiotherapists now find it impossible to cope with the work required of them, especially now that Leamington Spa and Sutton Coldfield are included in the county administration, and the time has arrived when consideration will have to be given to a further increase in the staff if the after-care treatment is to be done efficiently.

In my last report I referred to the unsatisfactory position with regard to the special education and training of cripples. This I think will to some extent now be provided for as stated in paragraph 8 of the Report on the work of the School Health Service.

The after-care treatment of children is an important part of the orthopaedic work, but is not easy to carry out owing to transport difficulties; consequently the postural type of case, in which a great deal of supervision of special exercises is necessary to obtain a good result, is often not adequately treated.

If a third Physiotherapist were appointed she would be able not only to help the present staff but in addition could organise special classes in selected centrally situated schools for dealing with the various postural deformities.

21 **Provision of Meals in Elementary Schools.**

It is pleasing to be able to report that there was a definite increase in the provision of meals especially when it is realised that progress in this matter in a rural county with many small schools is a much greater problem than in urban areas.

22 **Day and Residential Nurseries.**

The war-time nurseries—day and residential—referred to in my last Annual Report, continued in full operation during the year, with the exception of the St. Christopher's Home, Olton, which was closed on 8th August, 1945.

In July, a special joint committee considered the possible use of war-time nursery properties when no longer required for their original purpose, and arrangements were subsequently made for the modified use of certain nurseries, under the scheme for the adaptation of war-time established services.

Under the County Nursery Training Scheme, valuable help has been afforded the many applicants enrolled. During the year 36 probationers entered for the Royal Sanitary Institute examination, and 24 passed. At the end of the year 19 were still in training.

Details of Nurseries at the end of 1945, are as follows :—

<i>Nursery.</i>	<i>Date of opening.</i>	<i>Numbers on Registers.</i>		<i>Average Attendance.</i>	
		1944.	1945.	1944.	1945.
Atherstone, Ratcliffe Road ...	25/6/43	36	14	25.74	10.11
Bedworth, Bulkington Road (Residential).	1/11/43	18	16	16.49	14.74
Bedworth Heath ...	6/7/42	32	25	21.21	16.61
Wilnecote, Watling Street (day)	8/3/43	6	1	4.74	0.70
Wilnecote, Watling Street (Residential) ...	1/4/44	12	16	11.85	16.57
Shirley, Marshall Lake Road ...	2/2/42	48	37	27.04	23.40
Coleshill, Parkfield Road ...	8/3/43	20	21	20.56	18.10
Warwick, Priory Road ...	27/7/42	46	37	33.83	22.91
Warwick, Emscote Road ...	3/1/44	33	34	21.20	11.66
Kenilworth, Station Road ...	4/1/43	36	30	21.78	20.40
Stratford-on-Avon, Birmingham Road ...	28/12/42	27	20	12.57	13.28
Rugby, Holbrooke Avenue ...	15/7/43	54	51	34.86	38.32
Rugby, 14, The Crescent (day) ...	3/1/42	63	41	26.68	17.11
Rugby, 14, The Crescent (Residential) ...	—	—	10	—	11.64
Leamington Spa, 25, Warwick Place ...	22/4/43	10	10	12.21	10.81

23 Problem Families.

The importance to the community of "the problem family" is increasingly realised. These families usually come to the notice of health visitors and other social workers through their anti-social habits and behaviour. From such homes the "unparented" child mainly comes. Some are removed to the care and protection of the Local Authority, or are handed to a "fit person" by the magistrates. The problem family also contributes a large proportion of delinquents.

It is evident that much suffering might be overcome and many cases of removal of children from their families avoided if help could be given before the families have sunk to the depths of degradation in which they are subsequently found.

More accurate information of the extent of the problem and details of the families in question would be of value in any preventive work. I have asked the health visitors to assist me in compiling a register on a special form provided and have up to date 67 reports of families which provide much food for thought and research. In this, as in other spheres, prevention is better than cure.

The Sub-Committee (of which I was a member) appointed by the County Councils Association to report on the problem of the homeless child to the Curtis Committee, asked me to obtain information on the causes of homelessness in Warwickshire. I investigated the reasons for children being boarded out or placed in institutions during the month of September. The County Education Officer and the Public Assistance Officer were kind enough to give Miss WESTWATER and myself access to their records. Various visits were made to homes and institutions throughout the County. The reasons were as follows:—

WARWICKSHIRE.									
<i>Reason.</i>						<i>Number Maintained.</i>		<i>%</i>	
(1) Death of Parents :									
(a) One	...	...	...	...	...	27	...	9.2	
(b) Both	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	2.1	
								—	11.3
(2) Insanity of parents (one or both) or mental deficiency of a degree requiring institutional care ...									
						54	...	18.4	
								—	18.4
(3) Desertion of parents ...									
						28	...	9.5	
								—	9.5
(4) Removed to care and protection on account of unsuitability of environment due to :—									
(a) sloth and/or neglect	...	...	...	...	...	58	...	19.7	
(b) immorality	...	...	...	...	...	56	...	19.0	
(c) cruelty	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	3.4	
(d) destitution	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	10.2	
(e) lack of parental control	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	3.1	
(f) illegitimacy	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	4.4	
								—	59.8
(5) Delinquent children ...									
						3	...	1.0	
								—	1.0
								—	100

NOTE:—

- The total number of illegitimate children among the homeless is much higher than those given in the Table, the percentage being 35.
- The percentage of homeless children adopted under Section 52 of the Poor Law Act, 1930, was 14.
- The total number of families covered by the figures given in the Table was 153.

24 Institutional Provision for the Care of Mental Defectives.

The certified mental defectives in the County on 31st December, 1945, were :—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1. In Institutions (excluding cases on licence)—			
under 16 years	48	23	71
16 years and over	224	257	481
2. On licence from Institutions—			
under 16 years	3	1	4
16 years and over	30	26	56
3. Under guardianship (including cases on licence)—			
under 16 years	7	7	14
16 years and over	21	32	53
4. In “ places of safety ”—			
under 16 years	1	1	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	334	347	681
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

In addition, 425 persons have been placed under supervision in their own homes, and 31 cases are still under investigation.

The accommodation provided at Weston Colony remains the same as in 1944 (213 beds) the number of patients at the end of the year 1945 being 209—(61 males and 148 females).

The Warwick Public Assistance Institution continued in use for mental defectives, and there were 20 female patients in the Institution on 31st December, 1945.

MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

25 (A) DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY.

The County Council is the Supervising Authority under the Midwives Acts for the whole County, with the exception of the Borough of Nuneaton. The midwifery service is undertaken by 57 of the local associations affiliated to the County Nursing Association ; in six districts by whole-time County Midwives (14 in number) and in Leamington Spa by midwives from the Warneford Hospital. The Supervisor of Midwives makes inspections in connection with matters arising in midwives' practices.

The following table shews the number of trained midwives practising in the County in 1945 :—

Living outside the County	13
Resident in Voluntary Hospitals	19
,, P.A. Hospitals	14
,, Private Maternity Homes	15
,, Municipal Maternity Homes	14
Independent practice	21
Whole-time County Midwives	14
,, Midwives in Nuneaton Borough*	8
District Midwives employed by District Nursing Associations	76
District Midwives employed by the Warneford Domiciliary Service	1
	<hr/>
	195
	<hr/>

* The figure for Nuneaton Borough (a separate Local Supervising Authority) is included to shew the total for the whole County.

In 1945 midwives without doctors attended 4,996 cases, while as maternity nurses with doctors, they attended a further 2,095 cases. The figures for 1944 were 6,291 and 2,341 respectively.

26 ANTE-NATAL CARE.

(a) *Practitioner Service.*

The scheme for the ante-natal examination of expectant mothers by private practitioners in the County, has continued in operation. During the year Midwives have referred uninsured cases to doctors on the Council's panel, and have also referred women insured under the National Health Insurance Acts.

Details of this service are as follows :—

Uninsured cases referred	...	...	...	880
Reports received	...	...	...	776
Insured cases referred	...	...	...	350
Reports received	...	...	...	262

27 (b) *Ante-Natal Clinics.*

Six ante-natal clinics have been in operation during the year, and the following is a record of (a) the number of women attending the clinics, and (b) the total attendances :—

		(a)	(b)		(a)	(b)
Bedworth	...	211	717	Stratford-on-Avon	...	86
Keresley	...	65	210	Warwick	...	89
Rugby	...	484	2,165	Wilnecote	...	40

In addition, ante-natal clinics staffed by officers of the Staffordshire County Council were held at Bolehall and Glascote, and in the financial year 1945-46, the attendances recorded were :—

First attendances	...	...	27
Subsequent attendances	...	...	80
Total	...	...	107

28 (c) *Iron Tablets for Expectant Mothers.*

The scheme for the provision of medicinal iron for expectant and nursing mothers, which commenced in April, 1944, has continued to function through the medium of Midwives and Health Visitors.

100 Tablets, one month's supply, is offered at 6d. to all mothers. During the year, of the 5,945 mothers eligible for benefit from the scheme, 2,469 (or 41.5%) had taken advantage of at least one month's supply.

29 (d) *Ante-Natal Hostels.*

The Evacuation Hostels instituted during the war have provided accommodation for Warwickshire women as vacancies have occurred, thus affording a period of rest for expectant mothers prior to admission to lying-in wards. 164 mothers were admitted for varying periods during 1945, as against 105 admissions in 1944.

30 (B) INSTITUTIONAL MIDWIFERY.

The County Council exercises maternity functions under the Public Health Act, 1936, for the whole County, excluding the Boroughs of Leamington Spa, Nuneaton and Sutton Coldfield, which are separate Maternity and Child Welfare Authorities.

31 (i) *Evacuee Mothers.*

The reception of expectant mothers from neighbouring cities, inaugurated under the official scheme of the Ministry of Health, continued for part of the year. The number of mothers seeking admission, was considerably less than during the war years. The women dealt with during 1945 are recorded in the following table which includes comparative figures for 1944 :—

EVACUEE MOTHERS ADMITTED TO PRE-NATAL HOSTELS.					EVACUEE MOTHERS DELIVERED.								
					1945	1944						1945	1944
Offchurch Bury	...	...	24	288	Warneford Hospital	...	28	131			
Avonside	...	...	103	165	Avonside	...	127	314			
Cherington House	...	...	*24	218	Ellen Badger Hospital	...	25	174			
Weaving School	...	...	137	354	Rother St., Stratford-on-Avon	179	365				
Rother Street, Stratford-on-Avon			8	—	Monroe Devis	...	18	—					
Red Door	...	...	70	82	3, The Butts, Warwick	...	9	96			
					Other Places	...	6	33					
			366	1107			392	1113					

The exemptions from registration previously granted to the Hospital of St. Cross, Rugby, The General Hospital, Stratford-on-Avon, and the Ellen Badger Hospital, Shipston-on-Stour, were not renewed after March 31st, 1943, and these hospitals are now registered as Nursing Homes, in respect of accommodation for maternity cases.

The powers delegated by the County Council to the Boroughs of Leamington Spa, Nuneaton and Sutton Coldfield, have remained in operation.

37 (D) THE SCHEME FOR ILLEGITIMATE BABIES.

The scheme for the care of the unmarried mother and illegitimate baby, which commenced in 1944, has continued in operation, with the active support of the Voluntary Welfare Organisations in the County.

On the resignation of Miss MARY CUNNANE early in the year, Mrs. PHYLLIS BLAKE, S.R.N., S.C.M., was appointed Social Worker, and commenced her duties on the 28th May, 1945. Her enthusiasm, kindness and tact have contributed largely to the remarkable success of this scheme the details of which are set out in the table below for the year 1945 :—

THE CARE OF THE UNMARRIED MOTHER AND HER CHILD.									
NEW CASES IN YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1945.									
Number of cases dealt with. 493*		Referred by Moral Welfare Societies.		...	Referred from other sources. 361	...	Warwickshire Women. 335	...	Non-Warwickshire Women. 158
		Previous Pregnancies				Age classification.			
Married.	Single.	Widowed.	Pregnancies	Under 20.	20—25	26—30	31—40	41—50	Unknown.
114	369	10	133	110	236	66	63	5	13
493		493							
Cases settled.		Mother keeps.		Referred elsewhere.		Cases in which some action has been taken but no final arrangements.			
Baby died.	Adopted.	250		40					
22	141					40†			

* This figure though less than that supplied by the Registrar General (as it relates to actual pregnancies within the County and dealt with under the scheme) nevertheless includes many women registered by the Registrar General who supplies figures for Warwickshire only after adjustment to place of residence.

† Including 2 cases found to be non-pregnant.

Comments :

(2) Survival² is again closely related to birth weight but in 1945 the survival of the smaller babies under 3½lbs. was substantially increased. The survival rates for the babies over 4lbs. (97%) approached that for the full-term baby. (See Table 1).

(4) The rates for 1945, particularly the success in domiciliary midwifery (82%), suggest that elaborate construction of special units would not be justified. Every effort should be made to improve personal supervision at the place of birth.

The success in domiciliary midwifery is due, in no small measure, to the work of the Supervisor of Midwives (Miss D. M. KETTLE), who has gone to endless trouble to help midwives and to ensure that they seek help on every occasion.

(6) There is a suggestion that the number of stillborn prematures is declining and live-born prematures increasing. If this continues it may mean that some premature babies previously born dead are being born alive. Close observation over a much longer period of time will be necessary before anything can be said on this point. (See Table 3).

¹ All babies of 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less are included.

² Survival is for 28 days.

³ All premature babies have been credited to the midwife or institution conducting the delivery.

Weight Group lbs.	No. of Pre- mature births.		No. dying (days of survival).								Over	No. Sur- viv- ing.	Per- centage sur- vival	
			First Week.							Second Week.				
	Born Alive.	Born Dead.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7					
lb. oz. lb. oz.														
5.1 — 5.8	128	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	125	97.65	
4.9 — 5.0	84	4	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	80	95.23	
4.1 — 4.8	47	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	46	97.87	
3.9 — 4.0	40	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	35	87.5	
3.1 — 3.8	29	2	1	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	23	79.31	
2.9 — 3.0	18	3	1	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	1	12	66.6	
2.1 — 2.8	4	3	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	00.0	
1.9 — 2.0	6	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	00.0	
1.1 — 1.8	1	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	00.0	
Total	357	26	16	6	1	1	3	3	0	4	2	321	86.8	

TABLE 2.
PREMATURE BIRTHS IN WARWICKSHIRE, 1945.

		<i>Total born. alive.</i>		<i>Total Survival.</i>		<i>Percentage Survival 1945.</i>		<i>Percentage Survival for previous years. 1944.</i>		<i>1943.</i>
Voluntary Hospitals	...	128	...	113	...	88	...	82	...	91
Maternity & Nursing Homes		58	...	50	...	86	...	79	...	77
Domiciliary Midwives	...	111	...	91	...	82	...	70	...	66
Municipal Hospitals	...	59	...	46	...	78	...	75	...	64

TABLE 3.
RATES OF PREMATURITY.

<i>Per 1,000.</i>		1942.		1943.		1944.		1945.
Stillborn	...	4.3	...	5.3	...	4.8	...	3.5
Liveborn	...	30	...	38	...	35	...	46

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

39 NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.—The summary of the returns of the District Medical Officers of Health will be found in Table "C" of the Appendix.

The following table shews the cases of notifiable diseases which were notified, and the deaths recorded during 1945 :—

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Cases Notified.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>
Smallpox	—	—
Scarlet Fever	657	1
Diphtheria	113	6
Enteric Fever	3	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	54	3
Pneumonia	426	204
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	25	9
Acute Polio-Encephalitis	3	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—
Measles	4,195	12
Whooping Cough	776	12

40 VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.—The arrangements for the vaccination of infants have continued on the usual lines. The number of infants successfully vaccinated remains a small proportion of the annual registered births, while the certificates of conscientious objections received represent 43.49%. The corresponding figure for 1944 was 44.43.

Details of the disposition of cases in County districts are shewn in Table "D" of the appendix.

41 SCABIES AND LOUSE INFESTATION.—Treatment for Scabies and Louse infestation has during the year been carried out in First Aid Post premises at Bedworth, Rugby, Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick.

In previous years we were very fortunate in having the valuable services of the First Aid workers, but when the First Aid personnel were disbanded it was necessary to appoint cleansing assistants. This has proved very difficult, and consequently the treatment centres in the County had to be reduced to the four mentioned above which means that cases in the outlying districts have to be transported.

In a number of districts owing to the difficulty in reaching the treatment centres the Health Visitors have provided the patients with the appropriate lotion and given instructions so that treatment could be carried out in the home.

In view of this the figures which follow do not therefore give a complete record of the cases which occurred in the county.

I am pleased to report that it was not found necessary to apply the Scabies Order in any case of Scabies.

The following table gives particulars of cases dealt with at the Treatment Centres :—

			<i>Adults.</i>		<i>Children.</i>		<i>Treatments.</i>
Bedworth	...	...	118	...	225	...	963
Rugby	...	...	218	...	384	...	1,806
Stratford-on-Avon			91	...	158	...	476
Warwick	...	...	114	...	203	...	538
			541	...	970	...	3,783
Totals for 1944	...		663	...	1,495	...	4,933

LOUSE INFESTATION.

The head louse continues to present quite a serious problem which is still far from solution, but at the same time it is gratifying to be able to report that the School Nurses examined 3,338 more children as compared with the previous year and the total number of children found unclean was less by 254.

The following table shews the number of school children involved as revealed by the inspections carried out by the School Nurses in Schools :—

<i>Year.</i>		<i>No. of children Examined.</i>		<i>No. of children Found unclean.</i>
1944	...	30,376	...	3,471
1945	...	33,714	...	3,227

Warning letters were issued to parents relating to 74 families as against 78 in the previous year.

In five instances it was necessary to take legal proceedings under the Scabies Order, 1941, and in every instance an order was made requiring compulsory examination and cleansing. In every case the compulsory examination revealed the presence in the affected household of some person other than the school child who was infected, usually the mother or an elder sister, whose condition was undiagnosed. Indeed in some cases the affected adult seemed to be genuinely unaware of her condition. This confirms what I have written in a previous report, that the problem of louse infestation is not primarily a school problem but a family problem, and one, therefore, that can never be tackled statutorily if recourse is had only to the relevant provisions of the Education Act.

42 Prevention of Blindness.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—25 Notifications of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were received during the year, as compared with 24 in 1944. Of these, 9 were resident in the Boroughs of Leamington, Nuneaton and Sutton Coldfield, leaving 16 notifications in the Maternity and Child Welfare County. One case was treated in Hospital under the County Scheme. In all cases the vision was unimpaired.

70 Notices of medical help were received from Midwives on account of inflammation or watery discharge from the eyes, including cases subsequently notified as Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

43 Tuberculosis.

(1) NOTIFICATIONS.

During the year 1945, 545 notifications of Tuberculosis were received—452 pulmonary cases and 93 other forms of tuberculosis. Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis numbered 175, and from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis 40, a total of 215. The death rate from pulmonary tuberculosis was 0.40 per 1,000 of population, as compared with 0.42 per 1,000 in 1944.

44 (2) DISPENSARY SERVICE.—Dr. J. McGEAGH WILLIAMS, the Chief Tuberculosis Officer, gives the following information with regard to tuberculosis patients :—

Dispensaries.—Attendances at the seven dispensaries of the Warwickshire and Coventry Joint Committee for Tuberculosis, and at the School Clinic, Sutton Coldfield, during 1945, were as follows :—

Atherstone	...	...	...	...	237
Coventry—					
(Warwickshire patients)	...	1,620			
(Coventry patients)	...	6,360			
					7,980
Leamington Spa	...	...	...	...	950
Nuneaton	...	...	...	...	674
Rugby	...	...	...	...	351
Solihull	...	...	...	...	433
Stratford-on-Avon	...	...	...	...	313
Sutton Coldfield School Clinic	...	...	...	...	44
					10,982

X-Ray Examinations.—Undertaken at the Chief Dispensary during the year 1945, totalled 7110.

Return relating to the work of the Dispensaries during 1944.

<i>Diagnosis.</i>	<i>Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Total.</i>	
	<i>Adults.</i>	<i>Children.</i>	<i>Adults.</i>	<i>Children.</i>	<i>Adults.</i>	<i>Children.</i>
A. (1) Number of definite cases of tuberculosis on Dispensary Register at beginning of year	1,951	128	285	210	2,236	338
(2) Transfers from other Authorities	63	2	6	7	69	9
(3) Lost sight of cases returned	33	1	1	1	34	2
B. Number of new cases of tuberculosis :—						
(1) Class T.B. minus	317	42	—	—	317	42
(2) Class T.B. plus	340	3	—	—	340	3
(3) Non-Pulmonary	—	—	61	54	61	54
C. Number of cases in A. and B. written off as :—						
(1) Recovered	50	6	23	26	73	32
(2) Dead (all causes)	297	4	9	2	306	6
(3) Removed to other areas	74	4	10	3	84	7
(4) For other reasons	42	8	12	1	54	9
D. Number of definite cases of Tuberculosis on Dispensary Register at end of year	2,241	154	299	240	2,540	394

45 (3) HOME SUPERVISION OF TUBERCULOSIS PATIENTS.—Visits to patients in their homes are made by Clinical Medical Officers, the number of such visits in 1945 being 408. Health Visitors have also continued to do the bulk of the house visiting for which a nurse is required, their visits during the year totalling 2,124.

In addition the tuberculosis nurses employed by the Joint Committee paid 101 visits to patients.

Sputum Flasks.—16 sputum flasks were sold during the year, and 34 were given away.

Extra Nourishment.—Twenty-four patients were granted extra nourishment in 1945, and at the end of the year 33 patients (17 Warwickshire and 16 Coventry) were receiving this form of treatment.

Shelters.—12 shelters have been erected, and 14 removed on ceasing to be required, while one shelter beyond repair was sold. At the end of 1945, 35 shelters were occupied out of a total of 50 available.

Surgical appliances.—113 patients were provided with surgical appliances in 1945, at a cost of £145 12s. 7d.

46 (4) THE WORK OF THE SANATORIUM.—Dr. CORYDON BUDGE, Medical Superintendent, gives the following information of the work of the Warwickshire King Edward VII. Memorial Sanatorium :—

X-ray work.

Screen examinations	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,766
Radiograms	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,908

In-patient Treatment.

Patients treated by artificial pneumothorax	...	...	...	...	...	213
Patients treated by artificial sunlight	...	...	...	...	...	5
,, ,, pneumo-peritoneum	...	...	...	...	...	2
,, ,, Sanocrysin	...	...	...	...	...	14
,, ,, calcium sandoz	...	...	...	...	...	26
,, had phrenic evulsions	...	...	...	...	...	17
,, had refills	...	...	...	...	...	2,431
,, transferred to other Institutions	...	...	...	...	...	3

Artificial Sunlight treatment.

Lupus	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rheumatism	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Chilblains	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Dental Treatment.

Treatment for dental caries	...	...	...	...	...	102
Fitted with new dentures	...	...	...	...	...	4
Repairs to denture	...	...	...	...	...	1

Out-Patient Treatment.

Artificial pneumothorax	...	...	...	...	...	207
Periodical examinations	...	...	...	...	...	96
Treatment for lupus with phenylethyl hydnocarpate	...	...	...	...	...	3
For wash-out and dressing to sinus	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total attendances	...	...	...	...	...	5,528

47 (5) INSTITUTIONAL ACCOMMODATION.—The serious position with regard to Sanatorium accommodation, referred to in my last report, has continued to be a matter of grave concern to the Joint Committee ; owing to the acute shortage of staff, both nursing and domestic, 37 beds in the Sanatorium were closed in December, 1945, the bed allocation at the end of the year being :—

Males—80 ; Females—88 ; Children—34. Total—202.

The waiting list on the 31st December, 1945, was as follows:—

			<i>Men.</i>	<i>Women.</i>	<i>Children.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Pulmonary	...	...	73	49	8	130
Non-pulmonary	...	...	2	3	—	5
			<hr/> 75	<hr/> 52	<hr/> 8	<hr/> 135

The total at the end of 1944 was 47.

48 (6) MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCES (Memorandum 266/T).—The scheme of the Joint Committee for Tuberculosis for the payment of maintenance allowances, discretionary allowances, and special payments to persons receiving treatment for pulmonary tuberculosis and their dependants, has continued in operation.

The following statement by the County Treasurer gives particulars of applications dealt with from the inception on 1st July, 1943, to the beginning of February, 1946:—

Total No. of applications received	...	...	...	...	...	248
No. of cases eligible to receive maintenance allowances	...	...	...	...	...	169
No. of cases ineligible, not coming within the scope of Memo. 266/T	...	...	...	...	...	71
No. of cases in which applicant is a single person receiving institutional treatment	...	...	...	...	...	4
No. of cases in hand	...	...	...	...	...	4
No. of cases recommended work after period of treatment	...	...	...	...	...	69
No. of cases in which allowances have terminated on certificate of Tuberculosis Officer	...	...	...	...	...	12
No. of cases in which allowances have terminated owing to death	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cases terminated for other reasons	...	...	...	...	...	14
Discretionary allowances	...	...	...	...	...	69
Special payments	...	...	...	...	...	6

The present weekly cost of the maintenance allowances amounts to £122 12s. 7d., and the total amount paid since the inception of the scheme is £8,832 4s. 1d.

49 Typhus Fever.

One case of Typhus Fever was notified. The patient—an ex-Prisoner of War—was admitted to Stratford-on-Avon Emergency Hospital suffering from gangrene of the toe, which developed while in enemy hands. Signs of illness, which occurred three days after admission, were later diagnosed as typhus fever. By agreement with the authorities concerned, the patient received treatment in the Heathcote Isolation Hospital, and made a satisfactory recovery.

50 Cancer.

The period during which complete arrangements under the Cancer Act, 1939, should be submitted to the Minister of Health, has been extended until the 31st March, 1947.

A special sub-committee of the Public Health Committee is engaged in detailed consideration of a scheme which it is hoped to formulate in the near future.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

51 Rivers Pollution Prevention.

Many of the rivers and streams in the County are polluted, some seriously, and little if any material improvement has been made since the last report.

Complaints were received and investigated as follows:—

(1) *River Blythe.*

U.S. Army Rehabilitation Camp, Great Packington.

Sewage disposal works serving this camp were seriously neglected and pollution of the river resulted. The measures taken by the Army authorities were such that still further pollution resulted, but ultimately the works produced a satisfactory effluent.

(2) *River Bourne.**Fillongley Village Scheme.*

For many years sewage from Fillongley Village has been discharged into a tributary of the River Bourne. Following a complaint from the City of Birmingham Water Department representations were made to Meriden Rural District Council who are preparing a scheme for the provision of sewage disposal works, which will be put in hand as soon as circumstances permit.

(3) *River Stour.*

Following representations, works for sewage disposal were provided for the P.O.W. camp at Ettington.

A number of sewage disposal works were visited and samples of effluent taken for examination. A number of river water samples were also submitted for examination.

52 Chlorination of Sewage Effluents.

In my report for 1944, I referred to the Coventry Corporation Water Act, conferring powers on the Corporation to abstract water from the River Avon at Ryton under certain conditions. At the conclusion of the proceedings in the House of Lords, and following representations by the County Council, their Lordships strongly recommended enquiry into the possibilities of the chlorination of sewage effluents, with a view to improving the effluents discharged from the Corporation's works.

The Water Pollution Research Section of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research have carried out investigations into the chlorination of sewage effluents with the collaboration of Coventry Corporation at the Corporation's Finham Works. These investigations were an essential preliminary to the experiment designed to chlorinate the effluents from these works, and they revealed that the addition of chlorine when certain trade wastes are treated with domestic sewage, produces a toxic effluent. This insurmountable objection has made it impossible to proceed with the main experiment.

Further investigation is continuing, and research into filtration methods on an experimental plant erected for the purpose by the Corporation, is in progress by the Water Pollution Research Section in collaboration with the Corporation.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**53 (1) FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.**

During the year 1,009 samples of food and drugs were submitted for analysis by County Sampling Officers.

Of these, 100 were found to be adulterated, giving an adulteration figure of 9.9% as compared with 11.4% in 1944. The figure for milk adulteration alone was 8.7% (9.02 in 1944).

Proceedings were taken in 28 cases against 12 vendors, the fines and costs imposed amounting to £295 2s. 6d.

54 (2) Milk (*Special Designations*) Regulations, 1936-1943.

The supervision of licenced milk production has continued on the lines developed during 1944, under the direction of the County Sanitary Inspector.

Every applicant for a licence is now visited, and the premises, arrangements, and facilities for milk production examined, and advice given as to the improvements necessary to comply with the requirements of the Regulations.

Licensing conditions, such as the isolation of herds, segregation of individual animals when necessary, marking of animals and keeping of herd registers, removal and movement of reactors, and methods of milk production, which previously had little or no attention, are now enforced.

It would be too optimistic to say that all licensing conditions are complied with by every licence holder, indeed, this would be far removed from the truth, but substantial progress has been made in this direction. The standard of licensed milk production in the County has been raised and improved although several years of work will be required before the position can be regarded as satisfactory.

The following are particulars of licences granted, and milk samples taken during the year :—

New Licences :—

To use the designation "Tuberculin Tested"	...	...	31
" " " "Accredited"	...	...	35
			— 66

Licences in operation at the end of 1945 :—

"Tuberculin Tested" in relation to production, bottling and sale by retail	...	...	...	...	11
"Tuberculin Tested" in relation to production	...	...	...	...	125
"Accredited" in relation to production, bottling, and sale by retail	...	...	...	...	33
"Accredited" in relation to production	...	...	...	...	506
					— 675

Milk samples :—

Samples taken.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
"Tuberculin Tested"	443	79
"Accredited"	1,591	371
Advisory Samples	72	19
	— 2,106	— 469

The percentage of samples failing to comply with the prescribed tests has been reduced to 18.21 per cent. compared with 23.12 per cent. for the year 1944, 23.04 per cent. for 1943, and 27.52 per cent. for 1942.

Whilst this gives rise to some satisfaction it is not altogether a reliable guide as to licensed production as a whole. Production known to be of low standard, or where carelessness is suspected, should and will be sampled more frequently than production known to be consistently reliable, hence the percentage of unsatisfactory samples for licensed production as a whole may be misleading.

During the year the following action was taken with regard to unsatisfactory production :—

Applications to use the designation "Accredited" refused	...	...	2
Application for licence to bottle and sell by retail refused	...	...	1
Producers warned	...	...	7
Licences suspended	...	...	3
Licences revoked	...	...	7

55 (3) *Tuberculous Milk.*

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The campaign against tubercle-infected milk has continued, and during 1945, 226 samples were submitted for biological examination.

Of the samples taken, eight were reported to contain living tubercle bacilli.

In addition forty-six cases of tuberculous milk were received from various sources, and were referred to the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, with the following results :—

Herds under observation at end of 1944	...	...	...	8
Infected herds during 1945	...	...	...	54
				— 62
Herds subsequently reported free from Tubercle infection during 1945	...	...	...	53
				— 9
Herds still under observation at the end of 1945	...	...	...	9
				— 38
Cows found tuberculous and slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order	...	...	...	38

VENEREAL DISEASES.

56 Facilities for the treatment of Venereal Diseases have continued to be provided at the five centres under the County scheme. 376 new cases received treatment at the centres, where the out-patient attendances totalled 13,204, as compared with 11,769 in 1944, and 13,170 in 1943.

The following table records the work in greater detail :—

ATTENDANCES AT TREATMENT CENTRES, 1945.

	<i>Warne- ford Hospital.</i>		<i>Coventry & War'kshire Hospital.</i>		<i>General Hospital, Birm'ham.</i>		<i>Hosp. of St. Cross, Rugby.</i>		<i>Nuneaton V.D. Clinic.</i>		<i>Totals.</i>
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1 Persons dealt with at Out-patient Clinic for first time suffering from Syphilis	21	19	14	7	12	16	12	7	11	24	143
Gonorrhoea	50	13	25	13	30	19	20	4	35	24	233
Not suffering from Venereal Disease	53	72	39	38	108	110	25	48	27	40	560
2 Persons discharged from Clinic after completing treatment for—											
Syphilis ...	—		1	0	5	8	3	0	0	3	20
Gonorrhoea	19	11	13	10	17	11	11	0	10	5	107
3 Persons who ceased to attend with- out completing treatment ...	15	8	8	14	18	7	9	2	2	11	94
4 Persons in an infective condition at time of default	8	6	—		1	0	7	1	1	0	24
5 (a) Total attendances of all persons at Clinics	1196	1412	1090	1244	1883	1457	1094	530	1897	1401	13204
(previous year) ...	2608 (2381)		2334 (2198)		3340 (3056)		1624 (1749)		3298 (2385)		11769
(b) No. of persons in attendance at Clinics	322	412	159	177	345	320	104	65	178	277	2359
(c) Average attendance at each Clinic session	23	13.5	10.5	12	3.6	2.8	21	10	36	27	8.2
6 No. of in-patient days of treatment to persons suffering from—											
Syphilis	—		—		47	99	—		—		146
Gonorrhoea	—		—		0	27	—		—		27
Non-Venereal Disease ...	—		—		—		—		—		—
7 No of new cases of Venereal Disease	71	32	39	20	42	35	32	11	46	48	376
(previous year)	103 (105)		59 (69)		77 (57)		43 (42)		94 (96)		369

57 The powers provided in Defence Regulation 33B have enabled Health Authorities to deal in some measure with the increased incidence of the disease, and more particularly in the following-up of named contacts. Much valuable work, involving repeated visits to persons in their homes and elsewhere, and to hospitals and clinics, was undertaken by the Social Worker (Miss HILDA WALKER), who resigned in November, 1945. Until the end of the year, the work was carried on by Mrs. BLAKE, in conjunction with her duties as Social Worker for the care of the Unmarried Mother and her child. Miss G. E. DAVIE, successor to Miss WALKER, commenced duty early in 1946.

The following table shews the notifications under Regulation 33B during the year to 31st December, 1945 :—

REGULATION 33B.

		M.	F.
(1)	(a) Total number of contacts in respect of whom Form 1 was received ...	—	54
	(b) Number in (a) transferred from other areas	—	1
(2)	Number of cases in (1) in which attempts were made during the current period outside the scope of the Regulation to persuade the contact to be examined before the latter had been named on a second Form 1 :—	—	49
	Contacts found	—	43
	,, examined or already under treatment	—	37
(3)	(a) Number of those in (1) in respect of whom two or more Forms 1 were received	—	12
	(b) Number included in (3) (a) in respect of whom the first Form 1 was previously reported under (1)	—	7
	(c) Number included in (3) (a) transferred from other areas	—	1
(4)	Number of those in (3) (a) who were :—		
	(a) found	—	10
	(b) examined after persuasion or already under treatment	—	10
	(c) served with Form 2	—	3
	(d) examined after service of Form 2	—	3
	(e) prosecuted for failure :—		
	(i) to attend for, and submit to, medical examination	—	Nil.
	(ii) to submit to and continue treatment	—	1
	(f) transferred to other areas	—	5

58 Publicity.

Continued use has been made of press advertisements, posters, and public lectures in co-operation with the campaign carried out by the Central Council for Health Education, and discussions have been held on several occasions, while a Brains Trust consisting of the Rt. Rev. the Lord BISHOP OF COVENTRY, Major C. P. RUSSO (U.S. Forces), Mrs. WILMOTT DOBBIE, F.R.C.S. (Birmingham), Dr. A. MASSEY (Medical Officer of Health, Coventry) and myself, with Mr. W. H. PERKINS (Director of Education) as Question Master, held at Atherstone on June 1st, to discuss "Health and Sex in the Post-War World," attracted an enthusiastic audience, and was very successful.

59 Wassermann Tests.

The scheme initiated in 1944 to encourage routine blood examinations in pregnant women, had not come into operation during 1945, but there is evidence of increased co-operation by Doctors with the Public Health Department's activities in this respect.

60 Institutional Treatment.

The release of Penicillin for use in venereal diseases treatment was an important advance in method of treatment, and particularly in syphilis cases, and arrangements were made for the admission of suitable patients to the Birmingham General Hospital and the Stratford-on-Avon General Hospital for this form of treatment. In addition, patients have been provided with in-patient accommodation elsewhere, as follows :—Cleveland House, Wolverhampton (5), Hope Hospital, Leeds (1) and Highbury Hostel, London (1).

CONCLUSION.

61 This report is again set out in the abbreviated form used during the war years.

The population of the County—437,330—shews a reduction on the previous year, but the statistics generally were satisfactory, and compare favourably with the figures for England and Wales. There is particular cause for satisfaction in the lower rates of mortality for babies, children 1-5 years, and childbirth.

With the decline of activities associated with war-time evacuation, efforts have been made to develop the Maternity and Child Welfare Services in the County, notably by the inauguration of the Monroe Devis Maternity Home, Stratford-on-Avon, further extensions to which are contemplated.

Hostel accommodation has been procured for the reception of mothers both before and after confinement in County Homes, a new form of welfare which may have far-reaching effects on Maternal Mortality and Child Mortality.

As an aid to the recruitment of Health Visitors, the County Council agreed to participate in the West Midlands Area Scheme, instituted in Birmingham for the training of Health Visitors, by providing bursaries for student Health Visitors, and affording facilities for practical instruction for the students at centres in the County.

The year 1945 shewed a marked increase in the work carried out by the County Pathological Service, which was extended by the incorporation of the laboratory facilities of the Warneford Hospital, and the success of this service is due in the main to the keenness and skill of Dr. J. C. COLBECK, whose services have been universally appreciated by Doctors, Patients and Coroners.

In my report for 1944 I referred to a valuable addition to Child Welfare by the establishment of War-time Nurseries as a temporary measure for the care of children of war workers. With the return of peace-time conditions, and in the light of present day requirements, the County Council have retained four nurseries for Public Health, Education and Public Assistance purposes respectively, and six nurseries for the joint use of the Public Health and Education Committees. This is one of the most valuable means at our disposal of raising the standards of child care.

The demands on the Tuberculosis Service continue to grow as the incidence of the disease tends to increase. Additional institutional accommodation, provision of mass Radiography and the need for more home supervision of tuberculous patients, are matters under constant consideration by the Joint Committee for Tuberculosis, but which are at present impossible of solution, mainly on account of the acute lack of staff. The enforced closure of beds in existing sanatoria makes the position extremely serious.

This is my last report to the Warwickshire County Council, and I wish to take this opportunity of recording my deep appreciation of the confidence placed in me by the members of the Public Health Committee during my term of service, and of the kindness of my Chairman, Alderman W. L. DINGLEY, and of Councillor Mrs. TIBBITS, whose deep interest in public health in the County will long remain with me as a source of great joy.

I want also to thank all the clerical staff, particularly the senior members at Headquarters, who have worked so hard; to them I owe more than I can ever repay, and the success of our efforts was in the last analysis largely of their making. Had space permitted, I should have wished to acknowledge much of the loyalty and good work of the Medical and Dental staffs, of the Health Visitors and Midwives, of the Matrons of Maternity Homes, Hostels and Nurseries, and of the co-operation of District Medical Officers of Health, particularly the kindness and help of Dr. GIBBONS WARD. I want also to thank the Clerk of the Council, and other Chief Officers with whom I worked, for their willing help, particularly the Director of Education, Mr. W. H. PERKINS, for his interest and valuable help, and the Public Assistance Officer, Mr. H. J. KOTCH, to whose administration of the County Hospital Service with unexampled fairness, the people of Warwickshire and Coventry, and many hundreds of soldiers owe a debt of gratitude.

I offer my successor, Dr. S. W. SAVAGE, my good wishes.

I have the honour to remain,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

C. FRASER BROCKINGTON,

County Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the year 1945, in the COUNTY OF WARWICK, classified according to Diseases and Ages and shewing also the Population, and Births therein during the year, together with Birth, Death and Zymotic Rates, and the Rate of Infant Mortality.

DISTRICTS.	AREA IN ACRES.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.			DEATHS AT SUBJOINED AGES.							MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES.																																					
		Census 1931.	Middle of 1945 Estimate of Registrar General.		Registered Live Births.	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Typhoid and Para- Typhoid Fevers.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Acute Poliomylitis and Polioencephalitis	Acute Infectious Encephalitis.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	Other Tuberculous Disease.	Cancer of Bue. Cav. & Oesoph: (M) uterus (F).	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum.	Cancer of Breast.	Cancer of all other Sites.	Diabetes.	Intra-cranial Vas. Lesions, etc.	Heart Disease.	Other Circulatory Diseases.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia (all forms).	Other Respiratory diseases.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum.	Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years).	Appendicitis.	Other Digestive Diseases.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis.	Puerperal and Post- abortive Sepsis.	Other Maternal Causes.	Congenital Malform- ation, birth injur- ies, etc.	Premature Birth.	Suicide.	Other deaths from violence.	Road Traffic Accidents.	All other causes.	Syphilitic Diseases.
			1 year to Registered Births per 1,000.	Infant Mortality under 1 year to Registered Births per 1,000.																																													
URBAN SANITARY DISTRICTS	81524	215319	285610	5458	2975219	44	39	268	706	1699	—	—	5	—	8	4	7	1	3	5118	24	34	72	56284	35325	791	86	144	146	47	36	17	14	75	80	2	5	91	4538	71	37	257	12						
RURAL SANITARY DISTRICTS	477186	136445	151720	2830	1598133	27	20	146	359	913	—	—	7	1	4	2	10	—	—	4	57	16	24	37	29152	14157	423	46	84	58	28	17	9	6	26	35	1	5	51	2812	50	20	180	5					
WARWICK- SHIRE	558710	351764	437330	8288	4573352	71	59	414	10652612	—	—	12	112	6	17	3	9175	40	58	109	85436	49482	1214132	228	204	75	53	26	20101	115	3	10	142	7350121	57	437	17	0.03											

B. THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S FIGURES, Etc., for POPULATION, BIRTHS and DEATHS in the URBAN and RURAL DISTRICTS, and RATES based thereon.

	Population.		Live Births.		Deaths.		Infant Mortality.		Zymotic Disease.		Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		Premature Birth.		Cong. Malformation, Birth Injuries, etc.	
	Census, 1931.	Estimated middle of 1945.	Number of Births.	Birth Rate.	Number of Deaths.	Death Rate (Adjusted)	Number of Deaths.	Death Rate per 1,000 Births.	Number of Deaths.	Death Rate.	Number of Deaths.	Death Rate.	Number of Deaths.	Death Rate.	Number of Deaths.	Death Rate.
URBAN:																
Bedworth ..	16,959	21,800	442	20.22	189	8.66	24	54	4	0.18	18	0.82	3	0.13	5	0.22
Kenilworth ..	7,596	9,470	177	18.68	94	9.92	5	28	—	—	1	0.10	3	0.31	1	0.10
Leamington Spa ..	29,662	34,200	650	19.00	459	13.42	23	35	5	0.14	15	0.43	6	0.17	4	0.11
Nuneaton ..	46,305	49,140	1,052	21.40	503	10.23	55	52	10	0.20	21	0.42	13	0.26	23	0.46
Rugby ..	34,427	42,820	823	19.22	429	10.01	38	46	5	0.11	28	0.65	6	0.14	19	0.44
Solihull ..	25,371	58,770	1,143	19.44	518	8.81	34	29	6	0.10	15	0.25	6	0.10	17	0.28
Stratford-on-Avon ..	11,616	13,110	231	17.62	166	12.66	7	30	3	0.22	2	0.15	1	0.07	2	0.15
Sutton Coldfield ..	29,924	42,420	683	11.38	412	9.71	24	35	1	0.02	8	0.18	5	0.11	12	0.28
Warwick ..	13,459	13,880	257	18.51	205	14.76	9	35	—	—	10	0.72	2	0.14	8	0.57
Total Urban ..	215,319	285,610	5,458	19.10	2,975	10.41	219	40	34	0.11	118	0.41	45	0.15	91	0.31
RURAL:																
Alcester ..	11,233	12,140	239	19.68	138	11.36	6	25	1	0.08	2	0.16	—	—	5	0.41
Atherstone ..	21,865	21,670	460	21.22	210	9.69	21	45	5	0.23	12	0.55	4	0.18	7	0.32
Meriden ..	24,705	33,110	649	19.60	309	9.33	30	46	5	0.15	15	0.45	6	0.18	13	0.39
Rugby ..	17,890	16,920	303	17.31	189	11.17	10	33	2	0.11	14	0.82	1	0.05	6	0.35
Shipston-on-Stour ..	7,683	7,660	135	17.62	104	13.57	5	36	—	—	—	—	3	0.39	—	—
Southam ..	11,188	10,980	212	19.30	154	14.02	11	51	1	0.09	6	0.54	—	—	4	0.36
Stratford-on-Avon ..	14,114	16,200	296	18.27	184	11.35	15	50	2	0.12	3	0.18	3	0.18	8	0.49
Tamworth ..	14,026	15,190	295	19.42	146	9.61	20	67	2	0.13	3	0.19	6	0.39	4	0.26
Warwick ..	13,741	17,850	241	13.50	164	9.18	15	62	5	0.28	2	0.11	5	0.28	4	0.22
Total Rural ..	136,445	151,720	2,830	18.65	1,598	10.53	133	46	23	0.15	57	0.37	28	0.18	51	0.33
COUNTY TOTALS ..	351,764	437,330	8,288	18.95	4,573	10.45	352	42	57	0.13	175	0.40	73	0.16	142	0.32

C. NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—Summary of Returns of Medical Officers of Health for the year ended 31st December, 1945.

	Estimated Civilian Population as at June 30th, 1945.	Small Pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria in Membranous Croup.	Enteric Fever.	Paratyphoid Cases.	Pneumonia.	Cholera.	Meningitis.	Puerperal Fever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Acute Polio-myelitis.	Acute Poli-en-cephalitis.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Typhus Fever.	Relapsing Fever.	Continued Fever.	Trench Fever.	Dysentery.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Erysipelas.	Tuberculosis.		Malaria.		Chicken-Pox.	Measles (ex-cluding Ger-man Measles).	Whooping Cough.	
																							Pulmonary	Other Forms.	Stated to be Contracted in this Country.	Other Cases.				
URBAN :—																														
Bedworth	21,800	...	39	7	14	3	2	3	9	1	5	27	7	158	36
Kenilworth	9,470	...	30	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	2	...	...	...	36	6
Leamington Spa	34,200	...	56	13	...	...	27	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	9	36	7	...	...	159	23
Nuneaton	49,140	...	70	17	...	...	34	...	...	...	7	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	3	11	85	10	...	2	354	27
Rugby	42,820	...	91	5	...	2	51	...	...	...	10	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	1	12	61	21	...	...	494	52
Solihull	58,770	...	90	8	...	...	34	...	...	...	10	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	6	11	40	3	...	...	1001	168
Stratford-on-Avon	13,110	...	25	1	...	...	31	...	...	...	3	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	7	21	6	...	4	81	78
Sutton Coldfield	42,420	...	39	8	1	...	27	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	5	10	29	7	...	5	362	107
Warwick	13,880	...	21	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	2	27	3	...	...	214	26
RURAL :—																														
Alcester	12,140	...	18	10	35	2	2	1	1	1	3	9	1	377	85
Atherstone	21,670	...	18	14	50	2	7	2
Meriden	33,110	...	34	15	1	...	50	...	...	...	13	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	6	32	4	...	...	295	48
Rugby	16,920	...	19	2	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	18	4	...	3	102	34
Shipston-on-Stour	7,660	...	6	1	6	3	13
Southam	10,980	...	3	2	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	1	1	10	1	...	4	152	10
Stratford-on-Avon	16,200	...	20	2	...	...	19	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	...	4	17	5	...	4	99	22
Tamworth	15,190	...	30	...	...	...	17	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	9	2	...	...	181	38
Warwick	17,850	...	48	9	...	...	12	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	59	...	4	13	7	...	1	117	16
TOTALS	437,330	...	657	113	3	2	426	54	25	7	3	...	1	173	25	99	452	93	...	25	5	4195	776

RETURN shewing the number of Births Registered, together with the number of such cases successfully Vaccinated or otherwise disposed of in the Districts of the COUNTY OF WARWICK during the year ended 31st December, 1945.

VACCINATION DISTRICTS.	No. of Births returned in "Birth List Sheets" as Registered during the year ended 31st Dec., 1944. 1	Cases successfully vaccinated, 1945.		Insusceptible of Vaccination. 4	Died Unvaccinated. 5	Cases under Postponement. 6	Removals to other Vaccination Districts. 7	No. of cases not to be found. 8	Number of cases remaining Unvaccinated at end of 1945. 9	No. of Conscientious Certificates 10
		No. of Cases. 2	Percentage of Births shewn in column 1. 3							
Herstone ...	344	46	13.37	...	13	...	...	...	159	126
Riden... ..	1,270	210	16.53	1	36	...	256	44	127	596
ton Coldfield	648	470	72.53	5	5	6	28	23	20	91
nworth ...	240	44	18.33	...	5	1	...	...	78	112
neaton ...	1,476	83	5.62	...	53	16	163	62	196	903
dworth ...	399	60	15.28	...	13	5	1	19	...	301
ihull	1,263	380	30.08	...	31	10	60	150	192	440
gby	1,072	389	36.28	1	40	7	32	30	54	519
nchurch ...	115	9	7.82	1	3	1	1	1	31	68
amington Spa	1,126	311	27.61	6	12	4	362	3	...	428
rwick	748	124	16.57	...	15	1	209	1	142	256
ilworth ...	264	93	35.22	2	5	...	...	...	62	102
atham	152	37	24.34	...	1	...	5	2	...	107
atford-on-Avon	553	221	39.96	...	8	3	63	47	23	188
ester... ..	485	151	31.13	...	14	...	108	8	26	178
llesbourne ...	94	43	45.74	...	1	1	2	2	...	45
pston-on-Stour	406	52	12.80	...	8	...	156	16	...	174
TOTALS ...	10,655	2,723	25.55	16	263	55	1,446	408	1,110	4,634

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